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House Committee on Energy and Environment
Oregon State Legislature
900 Court Street NE, Room 347
Salem, Oregon 97301

April 16, 2013

Re: **HB 3186**, relating to sewage' creating new provisions.

Dear Chair Bailey and Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to give testimony about House Bill 3186. I support the bill.

The Bill, including the dash one, is of great importance to communities of limited financial means. It addresses an existing regulatory barrier: the prevention of a 'disadvantaged community' from seeking affordable infrastructure needs "within the communities' ability to pay". A 'one-size-fits-all' unaffordable approach by DEQ fails to meet the 'infrastructure needs' of struggling communities across this state.

Often times, those living in the urban cities do not have an understanding of rural (country) need and issues.

Under the dash one amendment, DEQ must consider 'economic impact to communities'. To achieve the objectives of making sound infrastructure investments in our own future, through a process that leads to optimal investments with the greatest return for its residents, I urge you move HB 3186-1 to a work session and a vote.

The dash one requires that DEQ develop a plan for providing assistance to affected communities. The dash one allows individual variances based on disadvantaged community criteria which would be established.

In conclusion, I support this bill. I am disappointed that the Committee is not giving this bill a work session. I trust my testimony helps you understand the need for this bill.

Respectfully submitted,

Ken Forsythe
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South Deschutes County resident and taxpayer